

S/N 09/175,589

PATENT

10/22/02
16/C

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Applicant: | JACOBSON | Examiner: | COLBERT, ELLA |
| Serial No.: | 09/175,589 | Group Art Unit: | 2172 |
| Filed: | OCTOBER 20, 1998 | Docket No.: | 12369.5US01 |
| Title: | ELECTRONIC RECORD MANAGEMENT SYSTEM | | |

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on September 30, 2002.

By:
Name:

Judith Less

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231



Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 29, 2002, Applicant submits the following
Amendment and Remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-2, 4-6, 10, 12-18 and 20-22 as follows:

1. [Third Amendment] In a distributed computing environment, a method for managing an electronic record for compliance with a retention policy of an organization, the method comprising the steps of:

creating an electronic tag that uniquely identifies the electronic record, the tag having at least one field for characterizing the record;

storing the at least one electronic tag in a central repository;

sending the electronic record to a recipient; and

wherein:

at least one of the steps of creating and storing ensure maintenance of the characterized record for a minimum time period based on the retention policy; and

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